MINUTES

of the

Twenty-second Spring Session

of the

Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association....

Held with the Church at

Jerusalem, Anson County, N. C.,

May 5th, 6th and 7th, 1906.

Also of the

Seventy-fifth Annual Session

Held with the Church at

Bear Creek, Stanly County, N. C.,

October 6th, 7th and 8th, 1906.

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Bear Creek Association Minutes—Spring, 1906.

PROCEEDINGS.

JERUSALEM, ANSON COUNTY, N. C.,
May 5th, 1906.

Assembled at the stand at 11 o'clock and introductory sermon delivered by Elder J. E. Williams from Ephesians 2nd chapter and 4th verse. Intermission 45 minutes. Then assembled in the house and service opened with praise and prayer by Elder Thos. Bell, a visitor from Mill Branch Association.

1. Called for and read the letters from the several churches and names of messengers noted.

2. Re-elected Elder J. F. Mills moderator and J. W. Jones clerk.

3. Invited messengers from sister associations to seats. Elder Jas. A. Monsess, of Abbott's Creek, was welcomed and seated.

4. Invited visiting brethren from sister associations to seats. Elder Thos. Bell and Brother Thos. Brown of Mill Branch, Brethren Sam Snider and J. B. Hulin of Abbott's Creek, and Brother W. M. Monsess of Country Line all were welcomed and seated in council.

5. Appointed a committee of arrangements as follows: Brethren S. A. Helms, S. C. Jones, W. D. Benton and Moderator and Clerk.

6. Elected by ballot to occupy the stand on tomorrow the following elders, to-wit: Thos. Bell, A. G. Morton, Jas. A. Monsess and Henry Taylor, service to commence at 10 a. m.

7. Adjourned to 9 a. m. Monday. Benediction by the Moderator.

Saturday evening Elders Thos. Bell and J. A. Monsess preached at the stand.

Sunday Morning, May 6th.

Assembled at the stand at 10 a. m., and service opened by Elder A. G. Morton, who preached from St. John 17th chapter and 4th verse, followed by Elder Thos. Bell, using as his text 2nd Kings 4th chapter and 1st to 8th verses.

Intermission one hour, then again assembled at the stand and service continued by Elder Henry Taylor, who preached from Proverbs 11th chapter and 8th verse, and services closed by Elder Jas. A. Monsess from 6th chapter and 1st verse of Isaiah. There was a real large congregation present and the preaching was all ably done, and we believe God was honored and glorified and His saints edified.

Monday Morning, May 7th.

Met in the house at 9 a. m., pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Elder W. R. Helms.

8. Called on arrangement committee to report. Report read and adopted.

9. Called roll of messengers and noted absentees.

10. Called on presbyteries to report. Elder H. M. Williams reported that himself and Elders W. R. Helms and J. A. Monsess formed a presbytery at Pleasant Hill church on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in April, 1906, and ordained Brother J. M. Hartsel a deacon of that church.

11. That we return thanks to God, this church, and people of this vicinity for kindness and hospitality during this meeting.

12. Adjourned to time and place mentioned in last minutes.

There was a steady rain falling, and soon as the business was finished, preaching service was conducted in the house by Elders W. R. Helms, W. M. Monsess and H. M. Williams. Thus ended a very good session, all in peace and love. All praise belongeth unto the Lord.

ELDER J. F. MILLS, Moderator.

J. W. JONES, Clerk.

MESSENGERS TO SPRING SESSION, 1906.

Bear Creek—Aaron Furr, A. J. Furr, Daniel Furr.
Bethany—N. G. Jones, W. A. Dry*.
Crooked Creek—W. D. Benton, S. C. Jones, H. E. Rowell.
Clark's Grove—J. F. Howell, J. C. Hartsell*, S. B. Tucker.
Freedom—Eld. Jesse Brown*, J. A. Holt*.
High Hill—Eld. H. Taylor, J. J. Hill, S. A. Helms.
Howard's Chapel—Henry Carpenter, P. A Howard, D. B. Howard.
Jones Hill—Eld. A. G. Morton, A. E. Little, J. F. Green.
Jerusalem—Joe Thomas, J. W. Godwin, W. A. Helms.
Liberty—Eld. Henry Taylor (proxy).
Liberty Hill—Eld. H. M. Williams, A. G. Helms, W. H. Hinson.
Lawyers Spring—Thos. Tyson, E. W. German, J. W. Jones.
Meadow Creek—D. M. Hathcock, J. A. Barbee*, G. M. Tucker.
Mountain Creek—J. C. Miller*, B. L. Treece*, Paul Safley.
Pleasant Hill—J. S. Norris*, H. P. Cashen*, J. M. Hartsell.
Pleasant Grove—Ben Thomas, T. A. Helms, L. Williams.
Union Grove—T. A. Austin*, T. A. McClellan, Joe Baucom.
Watson—W. H. Mullis, E. C. Williams, Willis Medlin.

Absentees marked thus *.

Proceedings Fall Session, 1906.

BEAR CREEK, STANLY COUNTY, N. C.,
October 6th, 1906.

Assembled at 11 a. m. and service opened with singing and prayer by Elder W. T. Broadway. Introductory sermon preached by Elder Henry Taylor; text, 8th verse of 1st chapter of Acts. Intermission 35 minutes, then assembled in the house, and after praise and prayer by Elder Jesse Brown proceeded to business, Elder J. F. Mills presiding.

1. Called for and read letters from the churches and their status minuted. (See table).

2. Re-elected Elder J. F. Mills moderator and J. W. Jones clerk.

3. Invited visiting messengers from sister associations to seats. Elder W. T. Broadway and Brother Nat Tucker appeared from Abbott's Creek and were seated and welcomed.

4. Invited visiting brethren from sister associations also to seats. Elder W. R. Gallemore and Brethren Love Morgan, George Snider, Sam Snider, Solomon Snider and A. N. Surratt of Abbott's Creek, and Brethren Andrew Taylor of Silver Creek and H. W. Johnson of Country Line were present and welcomed.

5. Appointed on committee of arrangements Brethren Elder A. G. Morton, P. A. Howard, J. S. Curlee and Moderator and Clerk.

(The church at Crooked Creek asked the advice of the association as to matter and form of granting letters of dismission to our members. Referred to arrangement committee).

6. On finance committee, Brethren H. M. Baucom and N. G. Jones.

7. Elected by ballot Elders W. T. Broadway, Henry Taylor, A. G. Morton and J. E. Williams to preach at the stand on tomorrow, service to commence at 10 a. m.

8. Adjourned to 9 a. m. Monday.

Saturday evening while the association was in session in the house, Elders W. R. Gallemore and W. T. Broadway preached at the stand. Elder Gallemore's text, 13th verse of 2nd chapter of Ephesians; Elder Broadway's text, 34th verse of 13th chapter of Acts.

Sunday Morning, October 7th.

Met at the stand at 10 a. m., and service commenced by singing and prayer, followed by preaching—first, by Elder Morton: text, 17th verse of 2nd chapter of Mark; second, by Elder Williams: text, 18th verse of 16th chapter of Matthew. Intermission one hour. Third, by Elder Taylor: text, 15th and 16th verses of the 2nd chapter of 2nd Timothy; 4th and last, by Elder Broadway: text, "I went out full but the Lord brought me back empty."

The preaching Monday was as follows: First, by Elder Gallemore: text, "Feed My Sheep"; second, by Elder Jesse Brown: text, "And he led me to a river, the waters of which I could not pass over."

Monday Morning, October 8th.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Brother Andrew Taylor, then proceeded to business, Elder Mills presiding.

9. Called on committee of arrangements to report. Report read, adopted and committee discharged.

10. Called roll of messengers and noted absentees thus *.

11. Called on corresponding messengers to sister associations to report. Elder Mills and Brother P. A. Howard reported that they and others appointed attended the Abbott's Creek association, were received and had a good meeting. Elder Walter Edwards and Brother Stanly Edwards attended the Mill Branch association, were received and also had a good meeting; others failed and were excused.

12. Called on corresponding messengers from sister associations to report. Elder W. T. Broadway reported that they were in peace and wished to keep up our correspondence.

13. Appointed messengers to sister associations as follows:

To Abbott's Creek—Elders A. G. Morton, J. E. Williams, Henry Taylor, and Brothers P. A. Howard, R. B. Burris and minutes.

To Silver Creek—Elders J. F. and H. M. Williams, and Henry Taylor and minutes.

To Mill Branch—Elder J. E. Mills, W. E Williams and minutes.

To Mountain District—Minutes.

To Senter—Elders H. M. and J. E. Williams and minutes.

14. Called on presbyteries to report. Elder J. E. Williams reported that Elder H. M. Williams and himself formed a presbytery at Meadow Creek on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in August, 1906, and ordained Brother G. M. Tucker a deacon of that church.

15. That our Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum, and note of first organization be appended to these minutes.

16. Treasurer reports:

Funds on hand from last year	$ 6.75
Finance committee reports sent up this year	26.45
Total	$33.20

17. The association advises the sister churches of this union not to give or grant letters of dismission to their members unless they can recommend such dismissed members as being in full fellowship and good standing.

18. That our next spring session convene with the church at Mountain Creek, Stanly county, N. C., 7 miles north of Albemarle, commencing on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in May, 1907, Elder J. F. Mills to preach the introductory sermon, Elder A. G. Morton alternate; and that the fall or annual session convene with the church at Clark's Grove, Stanly county, N. C., 18 miles west of Albemarle, commencing on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1907, also Elder Mills to preach introductory sermon, Elder J. E. Williams alternate.

19. That we ask Elder Gold to print notices of above sessions in the Landmark.

20. That the Clerk be Treasurer also, and have 700 copies of these minutes printed, distribute as usual, and have $6 for his services.

21. That we return thanks to God, this church and people of this vicinity for kindness and hospitality during this meeting.

22. That we adjourn to times and places mentioned above.

Benediction by the Moderator.

ELDER J. F. MILLS, Moderator.

J. W. JONES, Clerk,
Marshville, N. C., R. F. D. 1.

ANNUAL STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS—FALL SESSION.	By Experience	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Excluded	Dis'd by Letter	Deceased	In Fellowship	Contributions for Minutes
Bear Creek	A. J. Furr, Farrington Furr, W. H. Hatley	--	--	3	--	--	--	2	43	$2 00
Bethany	N. G. Jones, W. A. Dry*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9	1 50
Crooked Creek	W. D. Benton, W. S. Baucom, J. M. Austin	--	--	1	--	--	2	--	11	1 25
Clarks Grove	J. F. Howell, S. B. Tucker, J. C. Hartsell	4	5	1	--	--	--	--	21	1 10
Freedom	Elder Jesse Brown, J. A. Holt, Isom Coley*	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	9	75
High Hill	C. A. Helms, D. S. Outen*, Elder H. Taylor	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	54	2 00
Howard's Chapel	P. A. Howard, J. S. Curlee, R. B. Burris	--	--	1	--	--	--	1	25	1 50
Jones Hill	Elder A. G. Morton, J. F. Greene, A. E. Little	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	39	2 00
Jerusalem	Arch Helms*, Joe Thomas*, J. W. Godwin	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	11	1 50
Liberty	By Letter	1	1	--	--	2	--	--	12	1 05
Liberty Hill	Elder H. M. Williams, W. H. Hinson, C. W. Safley	1	--	1	--	1	1	1	17	1 00
Lawyers Spring	Thos. Tyson, H. M. Baucom, J. W. Jones	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	34	2 10
Meadow Creek	D. M. Hathcock, J. A. Barbee, G. M. Tucker	2	1	--	--	--	--	1	24	1 55
Mountain Creek	B. L. Treece, J. C. Miller, A. F. Huneycutt	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12	1 40
Pleasant Hill	J. S. Norris, H. P. Cashen*, J. M. Hartsell	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	14	1 00
Pleasant Grove	T. A. Helms*, L Williams*, E. C. Griffin*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	16	2 00
Union Grove	T. A. McClellan, T. F. Hill, Joe Baucom*	1	1	2	--	--	--	--	29	1 25
Watson	S. L. Mullis, W. H. Mullis, E. C. Williams	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	24	1 50
	Absentees marked thus * Total	9	8	9		6	5	6	404	26 45

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1906.

Funds left over from last year		$ 6.75
Donated by the association to Elder S. C. Little		5.00
Still remaining		$ 1.75
Sent up by the churches this year		$26.45
Total		$28.20
For printing these minutes	$14.70	
Allowance to Clerk	6.00	
Total expenses	$20.70	$20.70
Left in treasury		$ 7.50

The above donation of $5.00 to Elder S. C. Little was authorized by the association just before adjournment, and was paid over to him that evening, together with amounts sent him by brethren and friends, and on receiving the same he expressed his gratitude for being so remembered and thanked the Lord for thus blessing him in old age. He seemed well but very feeble.

CLERK.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF OUR ORDAINED MINISTERS.

J. F. Mills	Route 1, Marshville, N. C.
S. C. Little	Big Lick, N. C.
A. G. Morton	Albemarle, N. C.
J. E. Williams	Bloomington, N. C.
Jesse Brown	Star, N. C.
W. R. Helms	Charlotte, N. C.
H. M. Williams	Stouts, N. C.
Walter Edwards	R. F. D. —, Monroe, N. C.

ANNUAL COMMUNION MEETINGS.

CHURCHES.	CLERKS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.	THE ANNUAL COMMUNION MEETING TIME OF EACH CHURCH.
Bear Creek	Aaron Furr, Bloomington, N. C.	1st Sunday in Aug.
Bethany	N. G. Jones, Knott's Store, "	3rd Sunday in Aug.
Crooked Creek	H. E. Rowell, Route 1, Indian Trail, "	3rd Sunday in July
Clarks Grove	J. F. Howell, Big Lick, "	2nd Sunday in July
Freedom	J. A. Holt, Whitley, "	1st Sunday in Sept.
High Hill	S. A. Helms, Monroe, "	1st Sunday in Sept.
Howards Chapel	W. H. Poplin, Efird's Mill, "	4th Sunday in Sept.
Jones Hill	J. S. Little, Big Lick, "	3rd Sunday in Sept.
Jerusalem	Jas. Godwin, Olive Branch, "	2nd Sunday in Aug.
Liberty	J. W. Helms, Monroe, "	4th Sunday in July
Liberty Hill	C. W. Safley, Bridgeport, "	4th Sunday in July
Lawyers Spring	J. W. Jones, Route 1, Marshville, "	1st Sunday in Aug.
Meadow Creek	D. M. Hathcock, Georgeville, "	3rd Sunday in Aug.
Mountain Creek	A. F. Huneycutt, Bridgeport, "	2nd Sunday in Oct.
Pleasant Grove	L. Williams, Marshville, "	2nd Sunday in July
Pleasant Hill	H. P. Cashen, Route 3, Mooresville, "	4th Sunday in June
Union Grove	I. N. Medlin, Monroe, "	2nd Sunday in Sept.
Watson	S. L. Mullis, Sincerity, N. C.	4th Sunday in May

The above dates including Saturday before, also represent rugular monthly meeting time of churches.

Note of Organization of the Bear Creek Association.

On Saturday before the first Lord's day in October A. D. 1832, in consequence of the union of United Baptists being broken by the introduction of the modern schemes and inventions of the modern Missionaries, we, a committee of the original Predestinarian Baptists, convened with the church at Bear Creek (Stanly county now), Montgomery county, N. C., in October, which meeting was opened by singing and prayer, after which we proceeded to form a union by letters from the different churches then represented; expressive of our principles in the doctrine of the gospel, as follows:

Bear Creek—Elder Ezekiel Morton, M. Howard, J. Lambert.
Cold Water—N. Corzine, A. B. Corzine, A. N. Corzine.
Freedom—Elder J. Jones, Wm. Coley.
Meadow Creek—Eld. Geo. Little, N. Greene, R. Huneycutt.
Piney Woods—G. Hoge, Henry Conner, Jesse Hoge.
(Then they proceeded thus:)

1. Proceeded to appoint Elder George Little chief speaker or moderator, and George Hoge clerk.

2. On motion it was agreed that the first meeting of the association be at this church (Bear Creek) on Saturday before the first Lord's day in November next (1932), Elder George Little to preach the introductory sermon, which association's confession of faith, form of government, and rules of decorum, may be seen on the following pages.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe in one only living and true God, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

Art. 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, providence grace and glory, and in relative union with the Divine Word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Art. 3. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain the only written revealed word of God, and are the only perfect rule of faith and practice for God's church in her militant state while here on earth.

Art. 4. We believe the doctrine of Election, that God chose his church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Art. 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, their federal head.

Art. 6. We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin.

Art. 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Art. 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and his righteousness only.

Art. 9. We believe that God's elect or church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Art. 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

Art. 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the supper, that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men.

Art. 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular presbytery.

Art. 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and the unjust, and a general judgment.

Art. 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1st. A moderator, or chief speaker, and clerk may be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

2nd. The chief speaker, or moderator, shall take his seat at the hour to which the association shall be adjourned, and after prayer shall proceed to business. It shall be his duty to keep order, and shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as that of another; provided he appoint one of the members to fill the chair during the exercise of such privilege, and in no case shall give a vote unless the association be equally divided.

3rd. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the chief speaker by the appellation of brother, and while speaking shall confine himself strictly to the subject in question, and shall not be interrupted unless he digress from the subject, and shall in no wise reflect on any other speaker, so as to make remarks on his slips and failings and imperfections, but shall fairly give his own views of the case without sophistry or criticism.

4th. No person shall speak more than three times on one subject without leave of the association.

5th. No person shall absent himself from the association without leave.

6th. No member of the association shall address any other member by any other term or name than that of brother.

7th. The chief speaker, or moderator, shall not interrupt one member to prohibit him from speaking until his speech is finished, except he break the Rules of Decorum.

8th. The names of all the members of this association shall be enrolled by the clerk, and be called over as often as the association may require.

Any member who shall willingly and knowingly break or violate any of the foregoing rules of this association, shall be reproved by the association in any way they may think proper.